

**Amendments to the Claims:**

1-57 (canceled)

58. (currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide having at least 80% ~~nucleic acid~~ sequence identity to:

(a) ~~a nucleic acid sequence encoding~~ the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:216 shown in Figure 79 (SEQ ID NO:216);

(b) ~~a nucleic acid sequence encoding~~ the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:216 shown in Figure 79 (SEQ ID NO:216), lacking its associated signal peptide;

(c) ~~a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 79 (SEQ ID NO:216);~~

~~—— (d) —— a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 79 (SEQ ID NO:216), lacking its associated signal peptide;~~

~~—— (e) —— the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:215 shown in Figure 78 (SEQ ID NO:215);~~

[[ (f) ] (d) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:215 shown in Figure 78 (SEQ ID NO:215); or

[[ (g) ] (e) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209847; wherein the encoded polypeptide enhances the survival of rod photoreceptor cells.

59. (currently amended) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 58 encoding a polypeptide having at least 85% ~~nucleic acid~~ sequence identity to:

(a) ~~a nucleic acid sequence encoding~~ the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:216 shown in Figure 79 (SEQ ID NO:216);

(b) ~~a nucleic acid sequence encoding~~ the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:216 shown in Figure 79 (SEQ ID NO:216), lacking its associated signal peptide;

(c) ~~a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 79 (SEQ ID NO:216);~~

~~—— (d) —— a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 79 (SEQ ID NO:216), lacking its associated signal peptide;~~

~~—— (e) —— the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:215 shown in Figure 78 (SEQ ID NO:215);~~

[[ (f) ] (d) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:215 shown in Figure 78 (SEQ ID NO:215); or

[[ (g) ] (e) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209847; wherein the encoded polypeptide enhances the survival of rod photoreceptor cells.

60. (currently amended) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 58 encoding a polypeptide having at least 90% ~~nucleic acid~~ sequence identity to:

(a) ~~a nucleic acid sequence encoding the~~ amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:216 shown in Figure 79 (SEQ ID NO:216);

(b) ~~a nucleic acid sequence encoding the~~ amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:216 shown in Figure 79 (SEQ ID NO:216), lacking its associated signal peptide;

(c) ~~a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 79 (SEQ ID NO:216);~~

~~—— (d) —— a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 79 (SEQ ID NO:216), lacking its associated signal peptide;~~

~~—— (e) —— the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:215 shown in Figure 78 (SEQ ID NO:215);~~

[[ (f) ] (d) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:215 shown in Figure 78 (SEQ ID NO:215); or

[[ (g) ] (e) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209847; wherein the encoded polypeptide enhances the survival of rod photoreceptor cells.

61. (currently amended) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 58 encoding a polypeptide having at least 95% ~~nucleic acid~~ sequence identity to:

(a) ~~a nucleic acid sequence encoding the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:216 shown in Figure 79 (SEQ ID NO:216);~~

(b) ~~a nucleic acid sequence encoding the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:216 shown in Figure 79 (SEQ ID NO:216), lacking its associated signal peptide;~~

(c) ~~a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 79 (SEQ ID NO:216);~~

~~—— (d) —— a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 79 (SEQ ID NO:216), lacking its associated signal peptide;~~

~~—— (e) —— the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:215 shown in Figure 78 (SEQ ID NO:215);~~

[[ (f) ] (d) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:215 shown in Figure 78 (SEQ ID NO:215); or

[[ (g) ] (e) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209847;  
wherein the encoded polypeptide enhances the survival of rod photoreceptor cells.

62. (currently amended) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 58 encoding a polypeptide having at least 99% ~~nucleic acid~~ sequence identity to:

(a) ~~a nucleic acid sequence encoding the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:216 shown in Figure 79 (SEQ ID NO:216);~~

(b) ~~a nucleic acid sequence encoding the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:216 shown in Figure 79 (SEQ ID NO:216), lacking its associated signal peptide;~~

(c) ~~a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 79 (SEQ ID NO:216);~~

~~—— (d) —— a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 79 (SEQ ID NO:216), lacking its associated signal peptide;~~

~~—— (e) —— the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:215 shown in Figure 78 (SEQ ID NO:215);~~

[[f]] (d) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:215 shown in Figure 78 (SEQ ID NO:215); or

[[g]] (e) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209847; wherein the encoded polypeptide enhances the survival of rod photoreceptor cells.

63. (currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid comprising:

(a) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:216 shown in Figure 79 (SEQ ID NO:216);

(b) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:216 shown in Figure 79 (SEQ ID NO:216), lacking its associated signal peptide;

(c) ~~a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 79 (SEQ ID NO:216);~~

~~—— (d) —— a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 79 (SEQ ID NO:216), lacking its associated signal peptide;~~

~~—— (e) —— the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:215 shown in Figure 78 (SEQ ID NO:215);~~

[[f]] (d) the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:215 shown in Figure 78 (SEQ ID NO:215); or

[[g]] (e) the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209847.

64. The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 63 comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:216 shown in Figure 79 (SEQ ID NO:216).

65. The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 63 comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:216 shown in Figure 79 (SEQ ID NO:216) lacking its associated signal peptide.

66. (canceled)

67. (canceled)

68. (currently amended) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 63 comprising the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 215 shown in Figure 78 (~~SEQ ID NO:215~~).

69. (currently amended) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 33 comprising the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 215 shown in Figure 78 (~~SEQ ID NO:215~~).

70. (previously presented) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 63 comprising the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209847.

71. (canceled)

72. (canceled)

73. (canceled)

74. (currently amended) A vector comprising the nucleic acid of Claim 58, 78 or 83.

75. (previously presented) The vector of Claim 74, wherein said nucleic acid is operably linked to control sequences recognized by a host cell transformed with the vector.

76. (currently amended) An isolated host cell comprising the vector of Claim 74.

77. (currently amended) The isolated host cell of Claim 76, wherein said cell is a CHO cell, an *E. coli* or a yeast cell.

78. (new) An isolated nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide having at least 80% sequence identity to:

- (a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:216;
- (b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:216, lacking its associated signal peptide;
- (c) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:215;
- (d) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:215; or

(e) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209847;  
wherein the encoded polypeptide enhances the survival of retinal neuron cells.

79. (new) An isolated nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide having at least 85% sequence identity to:

- (a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:216;
- (b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:216, lacking its associated signal peptide;
- (c) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:215;
- (d) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:215; or
- (e) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209847;  
wherein the encoded polypeptide enhances the survival of retinal neuron cells.

80. (new) An isolated nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide having at least 90% sequence identity to:

- (a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:216;
- (b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:216, lacking its associated signal peptide;
- (c) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:215;
- (d) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:215; or
- (e) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209847;  
wherein the encoded polypeptide enhances the survival of retinal neuron cells.

81. (new) An isolated nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide having at least 95% sequence identity to:

- (a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:216;
  - (b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:216, lacking its associated signal peptide;
  - (c) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:215;
  - (d) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:215; or
  - (e) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209847;
- wherein the encoded polypeptide enhances the survival of retinal neuron cells.

82. (new) An isolated nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide having at least 99% sequence identity to:

- (a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:216;
  - (b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:216, lacking its associated signal peptide;
  - (c) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:215;
  - (d) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:215; or
  - (e) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209847;
- wherein the encoded polypeptide enhances the survival of retinal neuron cells.

83. (new) An isolated nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide having at least 80% sequence identity to:

- (a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:216;
- (b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:216, lacking its associated signal peptide;
- (c) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:215;

(d) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:215; or

(e) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209847;  
wherein the encoded polypeptide induces apoptosis in endothelial cells.

84. (new) An isolated nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide having at least 85% sequence identity to:

- (a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:216;
- (b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:216, lacking its associated signal peptide;
- (c) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:215;
- (d) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:215; or
- (e) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209847;  
wherein the encoded polypeptide induces apoptosis in endothelial cells.

85. (new) An isolated nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide having at least 90% sequence identity to:

- (a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:216;
- (b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:216, lacking its associated signal peptide;
- (c) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:215;
- (d) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:215; or
- (e) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209847;  
wherein the encoded polypeptide induces apoptosis in endothelial cells.



86. (new) An isolated nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide having at least 95% sequence identity to:

- (a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:216;
- (b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:216, lacking its associated signal peptide;
- (c) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:215;
- (d) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:215; or
- (e) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209847;

wherein the encoded polypeptide induces apoptosis in endothelial cells.

87. (new) An isolated nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide having at least 99% sequence identity to:

- (a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:216;
- (b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:216, lacking its associated signal peptide;
- (c) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:215;
- (d) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:215; or
- (e) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209847;

wherein the encoded polypeptide induces apoptosis in endothelial cells.